



**EUROPEAN GARDEN
HERITAGE NETWORK**

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**PRESS RELEASE
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European Garden Award 2021

The nine prize winners of the European Garden Award 2021, which were presented on the afternoon of 10 September 2021 in Schloss Dyck, come from seven European countries.

Winners from France, the Netherlands and Latvia were delighted to receive First Prizes. The six Second Prizes went to Germany, France, Portugal and Belgium and twice to Great Britain.

The 1st Prize in the category "Management or Development of a Historic Park or Garden" was awarded for the perfect restoration and careful development of the park and gardens of Rundāle Castle in Latvia, which enjoys the highest recognition among experts and delights all visitors as the "Versailles of the Baltic States". The winners of the Second Prizes, the gardens of Marqueyssac in the Dordogne and the gardens of Lowther Castle in the north of England, also show how very different design concepts can be implemented with the renewal of gardens. But both gardens are fascinating and thoughtfully and astonishingly combining old and new.

Three Prizes were also awarded in the category "Protection or Development of a Cultural Landscape". In the Dutch Waterloopbos, the winner of the First Prize, visitors can discover the models of many coasts and harbour sites, which were used for hydrological experiments until the 1990s. The largest installation has now been transformed into the monumental sculpture Deltawerk. Here, nature and art interact and offer matchless experiences. This principle or motto of "Art in parallel to Nature" is guiding the development of Museum Insel Hombroich for many years now, which was awarded one of the two Second Prizes for this exemplary concept. A Second Prize also goes to the small Portuguese village of Santar, where a private initiative opens and connects the historic gardens, creates a community garden for the residents and brings viticulture into the village as a formative element - all in favour of a sustainable development of this heritage landscape.



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In the category "Design or Concept of a Contemporary Park or Garden", the First Prize went to France. On the site of the signing of the armistice of 1918 and 1940, each of which took place on a train, the park "The Third Train" refers to this with its name and design, while at the same time creating inviting places of tranquillity and reflection. A Second Prize was given for the design of the garden at the Hauser & Wirth art gallery in Somerset, UK, which is characterised by a strict selection and arrangement of perennials and grasses. In the cramped urban space of the city of Brussels, the Parc de la Senne is an attractively designed and much-visited linear park that connects city districts and expands - wherever possible – to include additional features, such as community gardens.

Additional information about EGHN, the award and all winners can be found in the annexes and on the website <http://www.europeangardenaward.eu> (with images available for use by the media).



ANNEX 1:

THE EUROPEAN GARDEN HERITAGE NETWORK AND THE EUROPEAN GARDEN AWARD

The European Garden Heritage Network EGHN, an institution established in North Rhine-Westphalia since 2003 with a wide range of services and expertise, draws the interest of international garden lovers to the parks and gardens in the partner states and is appreciated by the professional world as a competent and attractive partner for professional exchange and cooperation in a variety of projects. This success is also based on the technical and financial support provided by the state government, by the regional associations Landschaftsverband Rheinland LVR, Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe LWL and Regionalverband Ruhr and on the commitment of the Schloss Dyck Foundation, Centre for Garden Art and Landscape Design in Jüchen managing the EGHN. Most important is the good cooperation within the EGHN with about 200 partners in North Rhine-Westphalia, in Germany and in 14 other European countries.

International collaboration currently focuses much on the effects of climate change on heritage gardens, on the vocational training for gardeners and the green sector and on international communication, e.g. in the context of the International Garden Exhibition Metropole Ruhr 2027.

The European Garden Award, which has been presented by the EGHN and the Schloss Dyck Foundation since 2010, receives Europe-wide recognition and attention that goes far beyond the EGHN, especially since the prize winners do not have to be EGHN partners. At least with the acceptance of the award by UNESCO World Heritage sites such as Sintra and Lorsch, by Kew Gardens in 2018 and by the Royal Horticultural Society and the Chaumont Festival in 2019, the European Garden Award has reached European circles of experts and has impressively positioned itself in the field of sustainability and climate adaptation with awards for the cities of Malmö and Copenhagen.

This year the international jury took their decisions in three categories:

- Protection or development of a cultural landscape
- Management or development of a historic park or garden
- Design or concept of a contemporary park or garden

For the first time an Open Call was started in 2019 asking for proposals for nominations. Some of the finalists result from suggestions made within this call.

With this eleventh issue since 2010 a total of 102 prize winners from 16 countries received the European Garden Award, which is supported by the Nurseries Lorenz von Ehren since 2012.

JURY MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN GARDEN AWARD 2021:

Kerstin Abicht (Germany), Roswitha Arnold (Germany), Ed Bennis (United Kingdom), Gunnar Ericson (Sweden), Jacob Fischer (Denmark), Davorin Gazvoda (Slovenia), Brigitte Mang (Germany), Nuno Oliveira (Portugal), Jens Spanjer (Germany), Lieneke van Campen (The Netherlands), Michael Walker (United Kingdom), Udo Woltering (Germany).



**ANNEX 2:
INFORMATION ABOUT ALL WINNERS IN THE YEAR 2021**

Category: Management or development of a historic park or garden

1st Prize: Rundāle (LATVIA)

The splendid restoration of Latvia's unique baroque garden was a complicated endeavour depending much on the devotion and work of the museum's staff and volunteers. Today the castle, the gardens and the park are praised as the Versailles of the Baltic States.

2nd Prize: Lowther (UNITED KINGDOM)

After 50 years of dereliction, the gardens were reopened in 2012 revealing the history of Lowther Castle & Gardens to visitors while adding a wealth of new layers.

2nd Prize: Marqueyssac (FRANCE)

The restoration with more than 150.000 boxwood trees cut by great imagination and full of movement adds softness and romanticism to Marqueyssac's dramatic location.

Category: Design or concept of a contemporary park or garden

1st Prize: The Third Train (FRANCE)

Where the Armistice was signed, subtle design elements symbolise trenches of the war and filaments of mycelium. Rail-like benches are a reminiscence to the trains in which the contracts were signed and invite for contemplation and reflection.

2nd Prize: Hauser & Wirth (UNITED KINGDOM)

The traditional and modernist architectures of the art gallery are perfected by the looseness of the garden that Piet Oudolf creates by the variety of species and combination of plants.

2nd Prize: Parc de la Senne (BELGIUM)

This linear park, located on the covered river Senne, reinforces the local identity and urban green network and has a great success as a meeting area and convivial space.

Category: Protection or development of a cultural landscape

1st Prize: Waterloopbos und Deltawerk// (THE NETHERLANDS)

Using one of the main structures of 40 years of experiments in water engineering, the artwork Deltawerk // (by RAAAF | Atelier de Lyon) allows magical experiences and views to the hidden secrets of Waterloopbos. The whole site is now owned and maintained by Natuurmonumenten.

2nd Prize: Santar Vila Jardim (PORTUGAL)

A group of owners of manor houses reveal the secrets, charms and (built) heritage in a concept for Santar's sustainable future, e.g. by joining gardens, by creating community gardens and by creating links to the vineyards.

2nd Prize: Insel Hombroich (GERMANY)

The motto "Art in parallel to Nature" captures the careful enhancement of this floodplain landscape to an ideal and unique space in both museum and landscape terms.

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